DIGGONDAVY's

RESOLUTION

On the DEATH of his last COW.

A

PASTORAL.

Dii meliora piis erroremque hostibus illum. VIRG.

LONDON:

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PASTORAL

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DONDON:

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DIGGON DAVY'S

RESOLUTION.

How could I hope, where fuch Contagion reigns, Where one wide Ruin Iweeps the defort Plains, 198

PASTORAL.

That Diccon's Kine fleath draw untainted Freath?

DIGGON DAVY AND COLIN CLOUT.



ENEATH an Hawthorn's Bush, secreted Shade,

The Herdsman Diggon doleful ply'd his Spade;

The deep'ning Grave conceal'd him to the Head,

Near him his Cow, his fav'rite Cow, lay dead:

When

[4]

When o'er the neighb'ring Stile a Shepherd came,
The Herdsman's Friend, and Colin was his Name:
Touch'd with the Sight, the kind and guileless Swain
Sigh'd, shook his Head, and thus express'd his Pain.

COLIN.

How! Mully gone! — the fad Mischance I rue!

Ah! wretched DIGGON, but more wretched SuE!

DIGGON

How could I hope, where fuch Contagion reigns,
Where one wide Ruin fweeps the defart Plains,
Where ev'ry Gale contains the Seeds of Death,
That DIGGON'S Kine should draw untainted Breath?
Vain Hope, alas! if such my Heart had known,
Since Mully's gone, the last of all my own.
No more shall Susan skim the milky Stream;
No more the Cheese-curd press, or churn the Cream;
No more the Dairy shall my Steps invite,
So late the Source of Plenty and Delight:
Thither no more, with Susan, shall I stray,
Nor from her cleanly Hands receive the Whey.

When

1[05]]

Sad Plight is ours, nor ours alone, for all Mourn the still Meadow, and deferted Stall.

Dejected first, she hung her drooping Head; where the state of the sta

Scorch'd with perpetual Thirft, short Sighs she drew,

.N. O D D I C.

Furr'd was her Tongue, and to her Mouth it grew:

Each Art I try'd, did all that Man cou'd do; d to I Med'cines I gave; thike Poison Med'cines slew: I had but The Bishop's Drink, which snatch'd me from the Grave. Giv'n to my Cow, forgot its Pow'r to save. I had so I The dire Disease increas'd by swift Degrees, in the shall Things free? Till Death freed Mully, Death! which all Things free?

Not cy'n her Skin, when living, fleek and red,

NILOS

Can ought avail me, Colin, now she's dead.

I wou'd not, DIGGON, now your Grief renew,
Yet wish to hear her Sickness trace'd by You;
How first it seiz'd her, and what Change its Rage
Relentless wrought in each successive Stage.

But,

DIGGON. Tiff on amoM

Sad Plight is ours, nor ours alone, for all

Dejected first, she hung her drooping Head; Refus'd her Meat, and from her Pasture fled; Then, dead and languid seem'd her plaintive Eye; Her Breath grew noifome, and her Udder dry. Erst sweet that Breath as Morning Gales in May, And full that Udder as of Light the Day. op out soul Scorch'd with perpetual Thirst, short Sighs she drew, Furr'd was her Tongue, and to her Mouth it grew: Her burning Nostrile putrid Rheums distill'd, And Death's strong Agonies her Bowels fill'd: Each Limb contracted, and a Groan each Breath; Lost Ease I wish'd her, and it came in Death: Cast out infected, and abhorr'd by all; See how the Useful, and the Beauteous fall! Not ev'n her Skin, when living, fleek and red, Can ought avail me, Colin, now she's dead.

COLIN.

May Heav'n, relenting, happier Days bestow, woll Suspend the Rod, and smile away our Wo!

Yet will to hear

But, if in Justice for our Crimes we smart,

If with Affliction Heav'n corrects the Heart,

'Tis ours submissive to receive the Stroke,

Since to repine is only to provoke.

DIGGON.

Hard is the Talk from Murmurs to refrain; Ev'n Bleffings past increase the present Pain. Once, in these Vales my lowing Herds were fed, My Table Plenty crown'd, and Peace my Bed; My jocund Pipe then tune'd to am'rous Lays, and I' A Kiss repaid me for a Lover's Praise. Bless'd Times, farewel! no more those Herds are found, No more my Table is with Plenty crown'd; No more my Bed the Sleep of Peace bestows; No more my jocund Strain melodious flows; A Lover's Praise a Kiss rewards no more; Joy spreads his wanton Wings, and leaves the Shore. Pale Want remains, with all her meagre Train, And only Sighs are echoed o'er the Plain. Far hence I'll fly, this rustic Garb forego, And march in Red, a Soldier, to the Foe:

The French, whose Bosoms Papish Plots conceal,
My Hand, made heavy by Distress, shall feel.
On Flanders Plains I'll lose domestick Care,
Desp'rate thro' Want, and mighty thro' Despair.
And there, if Heav'n at length my Labours crown,
I'll sow false Frenchmen, and I'll reap Renown.
Susan, farewel!—

Ev'n Blellings paft increase the present Pain. Once, in these Vales and Holling Herds were fed,

My T bas Mead T vover the Mead T vide

The 'Squire's curft Mastiff scours with headlong Speed:

See how my Flock in wild Contain these A

'Shigs if I catch him by this Hand he dies.

No more my Table is with Plenty crown'd;

Mo more my Bed the Sleep of Peace beflows;

No more my jocused Strain melodious flows;

A Lover's Praife a Kifs rewards no more;

Joy spreads his wanton Wings, and leaves the Shore.

Pale West remains, with all her meagre Train,

And only Sighs are echoed o'er the Plain.

Far Lence 141 fly, this ruffic Garb forego, And march in Red, a Soldier, to the Foe: